

C1
a plurality of individual facing panel members having a front side, a mounting side, a top portion and a bottom portion, the mounting side including means for individually mounting each of said plurality of facing panel members to said support brackets such that individual cavities^{as constructed} are formed between the rigid frame assembly and each of said plurality of facing panels; and
a crown member attached to a top portion of the rigid frame assembly, the crown member adapted to mount thereon office furniture accessories.

Replace Claim 6 with the following:

C2
6.3 The panel assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the mounting side of said facing panels further comprises a first panel mounting clip attached to the top portion of the mounting side and a second panel mounting clip attached to the bottom portion of the mounting side.

Replace Claim 7 with the following:

C3
4 A. The panel assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of support brackets further comprises top support brackets, bottom support brackets and intermediate support brackets.

Replace Claim 11 with the following:

C4
8 A. The panel assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein said plurality of facing panels are removably mounted to said rigid frame assembly.

Replace Claim 15 with the following:

CS 11/15. The panel assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein a plurality of individual facing panel members are mounted between the crown member and said bottom facing panels such that a first horizontal joint exists between one of said individual facing panel members and one of said bottom facing panels and a second horizontal joint exists between another of said individual facing panel members and the crown member.

Replace Claim 17 with the following:

CC 13/17. A panel assembly for a modular office furniture system, the panel assembly comprising:

- a rigid frame assembly;
- a facing panel assembly;
- means for mounting the facing panel assembly to the rigid frame assembly whereby an unobstructed cavity is formed between the rigid frame assembly and the facing panel assembly;
- and
- a crown member having means for supporting office furniture accessories thereon attached to a top portion of the rigid frame assembly, wherein said supporting means of the crown member comprises an upper angled clamping surface, a lower angled clamping surface and an inclined mounting surface therebetween such that the lower angled clamping surface is generally spaced apart from the rigid frame assembly.

Replace Claim 52 with the following:

15 ~~52~~. A freestanding panel assembly for a modular office furniture system, the panel assembly comprising:

a rigid frame assembly having a top portion and a bottom portion, the rigid frame assembly further comprised of:

- i) a plurality of vertical supports having opposing sides; and
- ii) a pair of bottom facing panels, one each of said bottom facing panels

attached to the bottom portion on each of said opposing sides whereby a box beam structure is fabricated to form the rigid frame assembly;

a plurality of facing panels, each of said plurality of facing panels including an outward facing front side and an inward facing mounting side, a top portion and a bottom portion;

means a first panel mounting clip attached to the top portion of the mounting side and a second panel mounting clip attached to the bottom portion of the mounting side for individually mounting each of said plurality of facing panels to the rigid frame assembly such that a plurality of unobstructed cavities are formed between the rigid frame assembly and each of said plurality of facing panels; and

a crown member attached to the top portion of the rigid frame assembly.

Replace Claim 54 with the following:

16 ~~54~~. The freestanding panel assembly as recited in claim ~~52~~₁₅, wherein a plurality of individual facing panel members are mounted between the crown member and said bottom facing panels such that a first horizontal joint exists between one of said individual facing panel